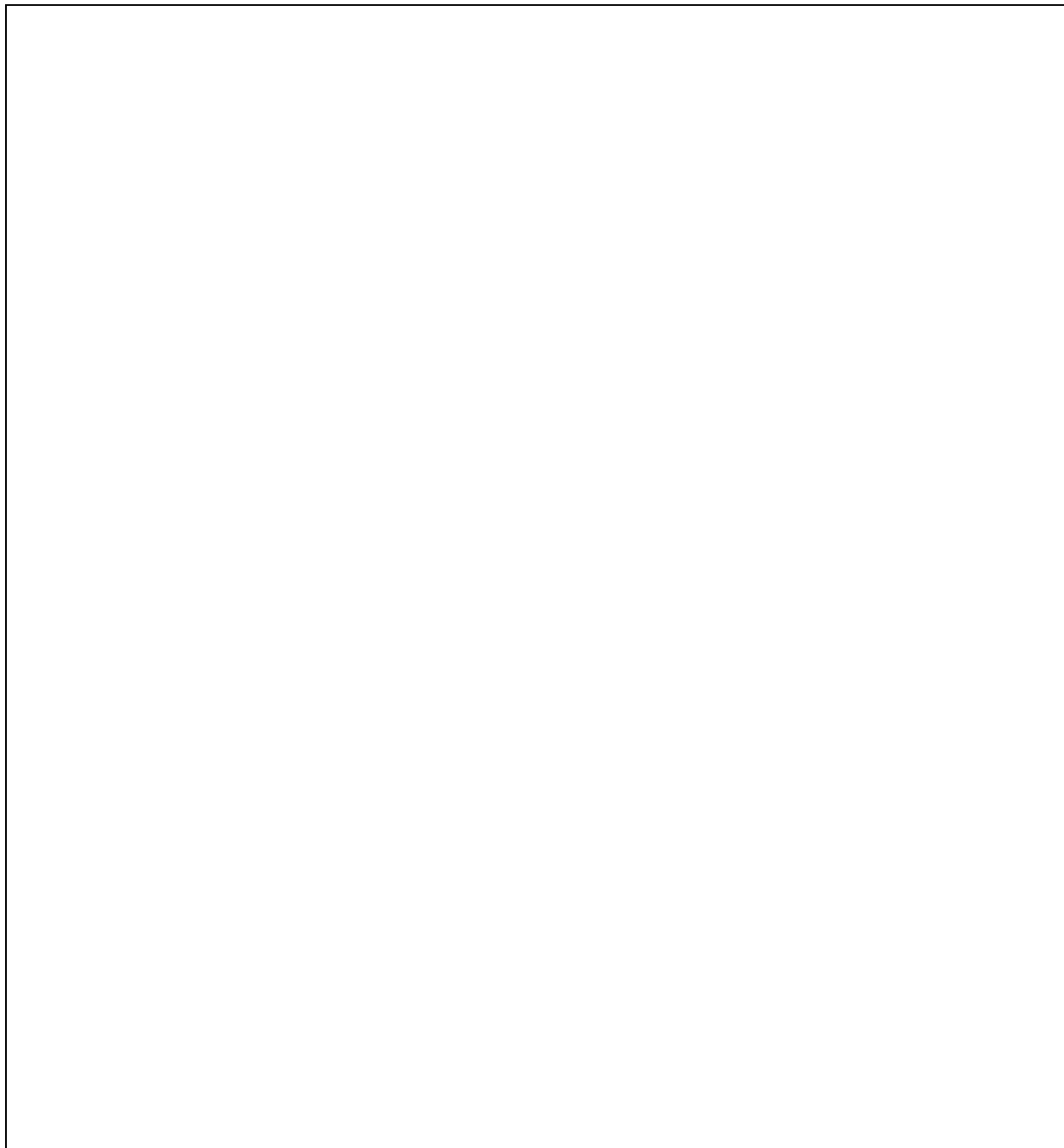


Name _____

Seasonal Safety

Plan Your Poster

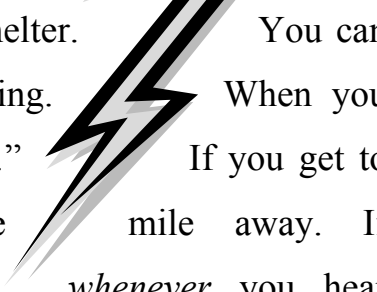
Each season we must take special care to keep safe. Here are some tips.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for students to plan their poster. It occupies the majority of the page below the introductory text.

Lightening Safety

Lightening is electricity. It travels from clouds to Earth. It is very powerful and dangerous. If it hits you it can burn or even kill you.

Here are some tips to help you stay safe in lightening:

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- ✓ Listen for storms. If a storm is coming, find shelter. You can tell how far away a lightening storm is by counting. When you see the lightening, start “One potato, two potato...” If you get to five before you hear the thunder the storm is one mile away. If you get to ten, it is two miles away. But *whenever* you hear thunder or see lightening go inside.
 - ✓ Find shelter a house is the best choice. A car is second best.
 - ✓ Never go under a tree. Stay away from open spaces.
 - ✓ In your house, do not use the phone, the sink, the shower, or the bathtub during a lightening storm.
 - ✓ If someone is hit, call 911 right away.

You can learn more about lightening from a girl who was hit at <http://www.azstarnet.com/anubis/zaphome.htm>. She also has stories of other people who have been struck by lightening on her web page.

Tornado Safety

A tornado is a violent storm. It is a funnel of wind that goes around as fast as 300 miles per hour. It can suddenly appear to destroy buildings and harm people. It can move along the ground at 60 miles an hour, then suddenly skip to another place. The tornado leaves destroyed buildings and cars in its path.

Tornadoes can happen in the spring or summer in Michigan. A tornado watch means the weather is right for a tornado. They can occur suddenly when the weather is calm and hot.

A tornado warning means a tornado has been spotted. The radio or television might warn you. You might hear a siren or a school alarm. But sometimes tornadoes appear with no warning at all.

What can you do to stay safe?

- Plan ahead. Ask an adult where the best shelter is.
- Know what signal means a tornado warning.
- If you hear a tornado warning take shelter.

Read more about tornadoes at <http://www.fema.gov/kids/tornado.htm>. Read about tornado safety at <http://www.fema.gov/library/tornadof.htm>.

Ice and Snow

In the winter Michigan is very cold. Many people enjoy winter sports. They ski and skate and they make snowmen. But ice, snow, and wind can make it dangerous to be outside. Here are some dangerous winter weather events:

- ✓ Freezing rain: When warm rain falls on cold ground it makes the streets and sidewalks very slick.
- ✓ Sleet: Rain freezes before it hits the ground. It is very slippery too!
- ✓ Blizzard: Heavy snow and strong winds will produce a blinding snow, near zero visibility, deep drifts, and life-threatening wind chill.
- ✓ Wind chill: When it is cold and the wind is blowing, it is even more dangerous. Your skin can freeze. That is called *frostbite*. You can even die.

A winter storm warning means that very bad weather is coming and it is best to stay at home. Adults should not drive. If school is closed, that means it is dangerous outside. Stay in until the weather gets better.

Read more about winter storms at <http://www.fema.gov/kids/wntstrm.htm> and about warnings at <http://www.fema.gov/library/wintwrn.htm>.